

## Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 INT-08 DLOS-06 SCI-06 CEQ-02

EPA-04 EB-11 COME-00 COA-02 IO-15 ACDA-19 AEC-11

AGR-20 CG-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 OIC-04

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /215 W

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R 120910Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8287

UNCLAS BERN 4233

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBRO SZ

SUBJECT: LOS - REQUEST FOR MINERAL DATA

REF: A) STATE 148245 B) STATE 193768

1. EMBASSY REGRETS DELAY IN SUBMITTING MINERALS DATA AS REQUESTED REFTEL A. DELAY DUE DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING DATA FROM SWISS PETROL HOLDING COMPANY WHICH IS PRINCIPAL ORGANIZATION ENGAGED IN OIL PROSPECTING AND DRILLING IN SWITZERLAND.

2. IT IS EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING, HOWEVER, THAT NO OIL AND GAS HAS BEEN FOUND OR PRODUCED IN COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES AS OF THE END OF 1972.

3. NEITHER GOVERNMENT NOR PRIVATE SOURCES HAVE DISCLOSED INFORMATION REGARDING NUMBER OF OIL OR GAS WELLS COMPLETED AND MONEY SPENT IN 1972 FOR OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION. HOWEVER SOME VAGUE STATEMENTS  
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CONTAINED IN SWISS PETROL HOLDING ANNUAL REPORT SUGGEST

THAT A) ONE WELL ONLY WAS DRILLED AND B) LESS THAN 0.6 MILLION DOLS WAS SPENT ON EXPLORATION LAST YEAR.

4. ACCORDING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS FOLLOWING QUANTITIES (IN MILLIONS OF METRIC TONS) OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS WERE IMPORTED INTO SWITZERLAND IN 1972: CRUDE OIL 4.82; FUEL OIL 5.39; MOTOR GASOLINE 1.76; DIESEL OIL AND AVIATION FUEL 0.48; BITUMEN 0.27; PETROLEUM COKE 0.03; LUBRICATING OILS AND GREASES 0.11. HOWEVER THESE STATISTICS INACCURATE AND MISLEADING FOR VARIOUS REASONS. IMPORTS OF JET FUEL FOR USE BY INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES FOR EXAMPLE NOT INCLUDED IN STATISTICS SINCE SUCH IMPORTS DUTY FREE. A MORE REALISTIC YARDSTICK WOULD BE FIGURES RELEASED BY SWISS PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION SHOWING SWISS CONSUMPTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN 1972 AS FOLLOWS (IN MILLIONS OF METRIC TONS): LIQUID GAS 0.08; LIGHT GASOLINE 0.18; MOTOR GASOLINE 2.46; AVIATION GASOLINE AND JET FUEL 0.65; DIESEL OIL 0.67; FUEL OIL 8.68; BITUMEN 0.43; LUBRICATING OILS AND GREASES 0.99. PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION FIGURES HIGHER THAN IMPORT STATISTICS BECAUSE THEY INCLUDE SUPPLIES BY LOCAL REFINERIES.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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